

Masonic Temple Wednesday Evening 23 July, 2025

At a Stated Communication of St. John's Lodge #3, A.F. & A.M.

New Bern, North Carolina

HELD ON THE ABOVE DATE PRESENT:

Bro. Arthur B. Romans W.M.
Bro. Joseph E. Fuller, PM as S.W.
Bro. W. Terry Tripp J.W.
Bro. Thomas L. Williams, PM Treas.
Bro. William C. Zerby, PM Sec'y.
Bro. Robert W. Webster Chaplain



Bro. Francis L. Anson S.D.
Bro. Joseph S. Kawalski J.D.
Bro. Nicholas C. Coyle Steward
Bro. Christopher A. White Steward
Bro. Mark E. Bledsoe as Tyler
Bro. _____ as Marshall

Lodge opened on the third degree of Masonry in Due Form at 7:30 p.m.

St. John's Lodge #3 was opened in due form by the WM. After the Flag Ceremony, WM recognized all Veterans, Certified Lecturers, Past Masters, Coaches, First Responders, and prior/current District Officers.

Sick and Shut-ins Bro. David Blonn's Mother-in-Law, recovering from surgery.
WB James Warren, keep in thoughts and prayers while undergoing treatment
Keep WB Fred Whitty in our thoughts and prayers while undergoing treatment
Keep Bro. Dominick G. in thoughts and prayers and he and his family travel to attend his mother's funeral.
WB Riley Hughes is having back surgery
WB James Wiley is having eye surgery
Those in the western part of the state in our thoughts and prayers
Unspoken needs of our Brothers and Widows

Good News: Thanks to everyone who attended the Past Masters 3rd Degree last week and especially to those who participated.
Bro Mark Bledsoe's cousin came to visit....safe travels back home.
Congratulations went out to bro Steven Langenscheidt on his wedding.
Bro Kito Romans resuscitated his son from a drowning incident.
Bro Robert Webster sends greetings from Concord Lodge #307.

The minutes of the last Stated Communication of July 9 and Emergent Communication of July 16 were read for information.

Treasurers Report: WB Tom Williams gave the treasurers report: Gen Acct: \$72,933.03
Mngt Acct: \$4,510.10

Bills Allowed: \$85.84 to bro Nicholas Coyle for drinks

Motion by bro Mark Bledsoe 2nd by bro Joseph Kawalski to pay the bills, motion carried.

Old Business:

- Reminder to Brethren, please pay your dues for 2025, we currently have 26 brothers owing dues for 2025, As a reminder, later this year, anyone owing dues for 1 year or more will be excluded for Non Payment of Dues in accordance with the Code.
- WM commented on the Endowed Membership, cost is currently only \$1911.00 for one-time payment or can be broken up into 5 annual payments of 477.75
- WM extended his thanks to the W.B. Joe Fuller for coordinating the Past Masters Degree.
- Scholarship Program Update: Terry Tripp report on Foundation presentation.

- New Business:
- Weds July 30th there is a EA Degree at St. John's No. 1 in Wilmington a contingent of brothers plan on attending and taking our EA down.
 - WM read more Proposed Amendments to the Code. (AS TIME ALLOWS)
 - WB Johnny Surles announced the retirement of WB Kevin Otis from the Children's Home.
- Coaching Report: Aaron Weems 2nd Degree w/ WB Larry Mares
Roger Baysden 1st degree
- Building Report:
- WM reported an anti-masonic visitor making a YouTube video
 - WM reported the drain in the banquet hall kitchen was backup up but has been repaired.
- Fundraiser Report: Bro. Mark Bledsoe gave an update on raffle.
- Membership Outreach: Bro Mark Bledsoe reported on the coffee & donuts event. Next scheduled date is Aug 2 @ 8 am.
- The New Bern Masonic Theater, Historic Preservation Foundation Report: There will be a Broadway Presentation on Sept 12, 630-9pm, Catered by Baxter's.
- Book Club: Bro Francis Anson announced the next meeting is scheduled for 2pm on Jul 27.
- Masonic Education: WB Johnny Surles told a story of the celestial lodge during an installation.
- Good of Masonry: The ribs cook-off winner is WB Arthur Romans
WB David Hall thanked the lodge for allowing him to be included in the raising of his son, William Hall.
- Important Dates:
- 24 Jul Blood Drive @ Trent Woods Town Hall 8am-4pm. A \$40 donation will be made for each pint
 - 27 Jul Book club meeting @ 2pm
 - 30 Jul ST. John's #1, 1st degree Tyled @ 630
 - 2 Aug 2025 District School of Instruction 9 am
 - 2 Aug Coffee and Donuts 8am, to precede School of Instruction
 - 2 Aug Grotto Temple Baptist Ice Cream Social
 - 23 Aug - 251st Anniversary Observance of New Bern Resolves (Parade Steps off 9:30am by History Center) 8am pictures behind History Center.
 - Sept 1st Fishing with Cops, River Bend. 8-1 pm
 - 17-18 Oct Scottish Rite Fall Reunion
 - Feb 2026 Scottish Rite train ride to GM SGIG

WM thanked all the bro;s who participated in the ribs cook-off for the meal

The meal was served in Lowthorp hall before the meeting.

There being no further business to come before this Lodge, the minutes were read and approved, and this Lodge was closed in due form.

William C. Zerby. PM
Secretary